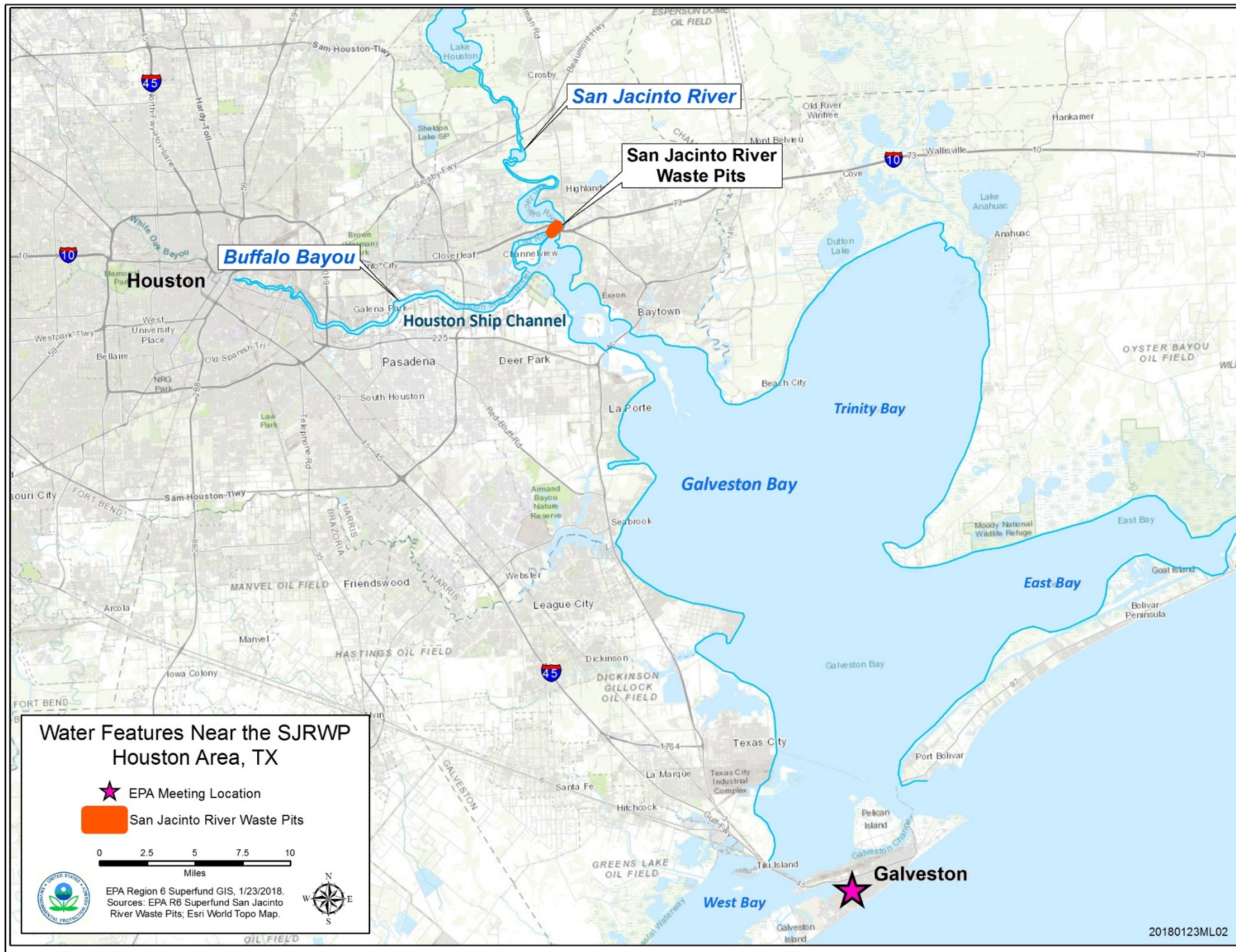


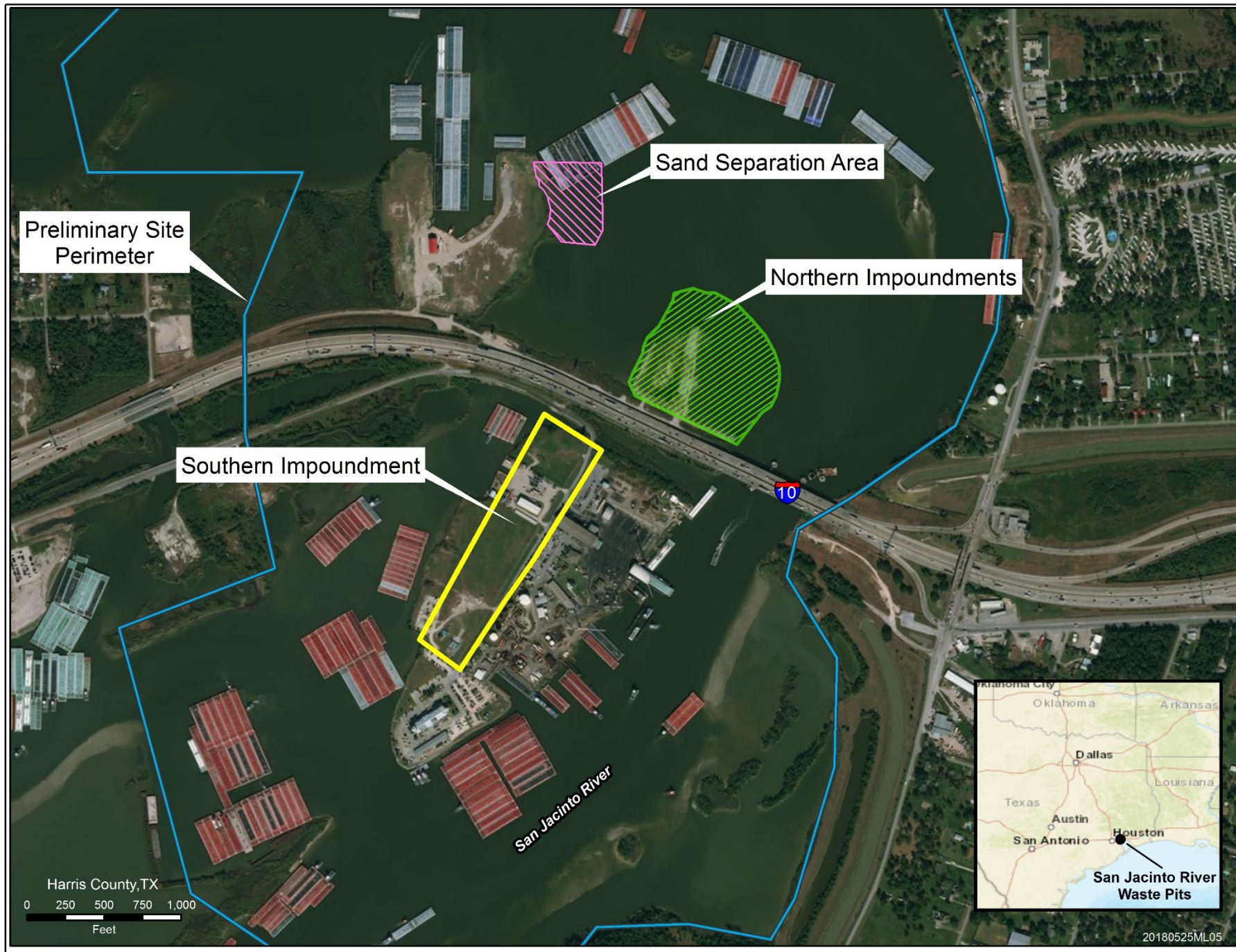


# **San Jacinto River Waste Pits Superfund Site**

**Informational Meeting  
June 5, 2018**







# Background

- Built in the mid-1960s for disposal of paper mill wastes
- Northern & southern impoundments cover about 15 acres each
- Contaminated with dioxins and furans
- San Jacinto River Waste Pits added to the National Priorities List (Superfund) in 2008





# **San Jacinto River Waste Pits**

South  
Impoundment  
1965

# Changing River Conditions

1966



1997





# San Jacinto River Waste Pits (2006)





# San Jacinto River Waste Pits (2007)





# Why Actions Taken to Cap Pits

- Dioxin exposed at surface and in the river
- People were being exposed
- Uncontrolled releases to river
- Time to complete site investigations
- Temporary cap was necessary to prevent releases & exposures

# Northern Waste Pits (after cap)



**Cap Construction: 2010 to 2011**



# Summary of Site Risks

- Human health potential risks to:
  - ▢ Recreational fisher (child)
  - ▢ Recreational visitors
  - ▢ Construction workers (south of I-10)
- Ecological potential risk to clams

# Current Operations

- Quarterly site inspections are continuing
- Last inspection April 2018:
  - ❑ Visual inspection – above water cap intact
  - ❑ Fences, buoys, & signs intact, except one cap perimeter sign that will be replaced
  - ❑ Site cameras operating normally
  - ❑ Land & water surveys completed – found one area lower than last survey – probing confirmed cap was intact & at same elevation as original survey.
- EPA Dive Team underwater cap inspection





**San Jacinto River – Hurricane Harvey**  
**Water level 9.9 feet**

# Hurricane Response

- Monitor site & river:
  - ▣ Site/TXDOT cameras
  - ▣ River gauge & Lake Houston dam release data
- PRP contractor mobilize to site within 24 hours of emergency event (access/safe)
- Remove any vessel/debris that damaged cap
- *Initial* - geotextile/rock over damaged area (geotextile & rock stockpiled)
- *Next* – assess need for additional repairs & submit workplan for EPA approval



# Summary of Remedy

- Remove 212,000 cubic yards of waste for offsite disposal
- Prevent releases during construction:
  - No dredging – use excavation in the “dry”
  - Water pumped out & treated before discharge
- Cleanup level - 30 ppt for north waste pits & 240 ppt for southern impoundment
- Cost: \$115 million
- Construction time 27 months

# Best Management Practices (BMP)





# Status/Next Steps

- Consent Order to complete design – April 2018
- Design expected to take 29 months
- Upcoming submittals for EPA approval:
  - ❑ Draft Pre-Design Investigation Workplan – June 2018
  - ❑ Draft Remedial Design Workplan – September 2018



**Questions ?**